

### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The present Amendment is being submitted prior to a first Office Action following the Request for Continued Examination.

With this Amendment, Applicant has amended the independent claims to further distinguish them from the cited prior art. It should be pointed out that the plastic material is a fiber reinforced plastic material and the equilibration of the differences in elastic modulus and/or coefficient of thermal expansion is between the insert and the fiber reinforced plastic of the structural element and not only the matrix-forming plastic material itself. See additionally page 4, lines 10-11 of the specification for support.

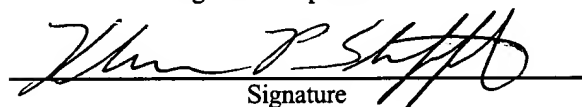
Favorable action on the application is respectfully requested.

In the event the actual fee is greater than the payment submitted or is inadvertently not enclosed or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 8, 2004:

Klaus P. Stoffel

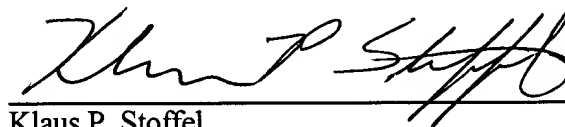
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Name of applicant, assignee or  
Registered Representative

  
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Signature

June 8, 2004

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Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

  
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